



ITW

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Yumi MUROI et al.

Group Art Unit: 1791

Application No.: 10/550,457

Examiner: R. KEMMERLE

Filed: July 19, 2006

Docket No.: 125404

For: METHOD OF MANUFACTURING HONEYCOMB STRUCTURE

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

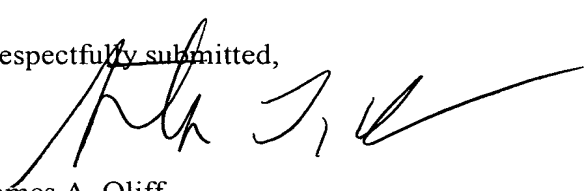
Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the attached reference(s). Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the reference(s) be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

- ☒ 1. This Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection, Notice of Allowance or other action that closes prosecution (e.g., Quayle Action).
- ☒ a. I hereby certify that the Decision of Refusal contained in this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1).

- ☒ 2. The English translation of the Japanese Office Action attached to this Information Disclosure Statement cites JP 2002-356383, JP 61-291461, JP 61-026565 and JP 61-106459. These references were previously cited in the Information Disclosure Statement filed on September 26, 2005. It is respectfully requested that the Examiner reconsider these references in light of the translation of the Japanese Office Action.

Respectfully submitted,

  
James A. Oliff  
Registration No. 27,075

Stephen J. Pachol  
Registration No. 62,487

JAO:SJP/mcp

Date: March 16, 2009

**OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC**  
**P.O. Box 320850**  
**Alexandria, Virginia 22320-4850**  
**Telephone: (703) 836-6400**

**DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE  
AUTHORIZATION**

Please grant any extension  
necessary for entry;  
Charge any fee due to our  
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English Translation of Office Action issued by Japanese PTO

Reference Number: 02P00647

Mailing Number: 758011

Mailing Date: December 16, 2008

Decision of Refusal

APPLICATION SERIAL NO: 2003-084348  
Drafting Date: December 8, 2008  
Examiner of JPO: Kenichi OHASHI 4140 4T00  
Title of the Invention: METHOD OF MANUFACTURING HONEYCOMB  
STRUCTURE  
Applicant: NGK Insulators, LTD.  
Representative/Applicant: Tomoyuki NAKAMURA

The present application is deemed to be rejected for the reason 1 described in the Office Action on July 15, 2008.

Meanwhile, although the contents of the Written Argument and the Amendment of Proceedings were examined, the basis for overcoming the reason for rejection has not been found.

Remarks:

The Applicant added, in Written Amendment, a specific limitation that a separation distance between a solid containing aluminum and a body to be fired is 0 cm or larger and 50 cm or smaller, and asserted, in Written Argument, that Cited References 2 - 4 do not describe such a limitation.

As asserted, Cited Reference 2 (lines 11 - 13 on left-upper column in page 3) does not explicitly describe that the separation distance is 50 cm or smaller. However, as long as the size of the furnace is restricted, the separation distance of 50 cm or smaller is common technical knowledge.

Accordingly, the aforementioned argument is not accepted.

As to the subject matter of claims 2 - 7, the examination results are the same as those pointed out in the aforementioned Notification of Reasons for Refusal. As to the subject matter of claims 8 and 9, it is disclosed in Cited Reference 1 (paragraph [0065]). As to the subject matter of claim 10, it is disclosed in Cited Reference 4 (lines 4 - 8 on upper-right column in page 4, and second line from bottom on the same column - line 2 on lower-left column).

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If you have any objection against this final decision, you may demand for a trial against the Commissioner of the JPO within 30 days (90 days for foreigners) from the delivery date of this transcript of the decision (Article 121, Section 1 of Japanese Patent Law).  
(Teaching based on Article 46, Section 2 of Law on Suits against Government)

## English Translation of Office Action issued by Japanese PTO

Against this decision, action for cancellation may be posed only for the trial decision to the demand for a trial for this decision (Article 178, Section 6 of Japanese Patent Law).